## TITHE — MANIFESTATION OF THE FEAR OF GOD Mal 3:1-7

Mal 3:8-12 Robbed God. How? In <u>tithes</u> and offerings

Curse: judgment resulting in damage or injury...Famine & scarcity. Hag 1:10,11

Mt. Henry: Those that deny God His part of their estates may justly expect a curse upon their

own part of them.

Solution: Mal 3:10 *Bring ye all the tithes* ....

Tithes: support priests & Levites Origin: first to tithe--<u>Abraham</u>. Jacob vowed unto Lord. Gen 28:22

Gen. 14:17-20 Abraham gave Melchizedek tithes of all

430 yrs before law (Tithing little to do with <u>law</u>)

Mt. 23:23 Jesus encouraged practice of tithing all income.

Tithe? Part of dollar that you give to the Lord <u>before</u> paying any other bills.

All tithes paid in OT: 10%----33%.

Every Jew required

1st Tithe: Of seed of land, herds & flocks. Supported <u>Temple</u> 2nd Tithe: Of remaining 90% Supported Levites & Priests. 3rd Tithe: "Poor" tithe. Supported poor. 1 Cor. 9:13-14

Offerings. Beyond/<u>above</u> tithes. NT tithes & offerings combined...as Lord prospers. 2 Cor 9:6-8

People

1. Not paying at all 2. Not paying <u>fully</u> 3. Not paying of <u>best</u>

Mt. Henry: Bring in the full tithes to the utmost that God requires that there may be meat in my house for those that serve at the altar, whether there be meat in your houses or not!

Storehouse: Nickname for temple or synagogue.

NT-local church.

*Prove me now herewith*: give me a chance to show myself powerful to you.

Man says, let God provide needs  $\underline{\text{first}}$ 

God says, bring all tithes & see whether or not I will not then restore to you plentifully.

Widow of Zarephath. 1 Ki 17:13-16 ... make me thereof a little cake first

Hag 2:8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts.

Devourer: That which will burn up, eat up, or consume materials.

Bigger picture? Are you committed to <u>fearing</u> God?

Do you realize:

Tithing illustration of **fear** of God?

Withholding tithe means robbing God?

Purpose of the tithe?

Practically: to support the ministry of the local <u>church</u>. Theologically: To teach God's people to fear Him (Dt. 14)

Why not tithe?

- 1. <u>Ignorance</u>: never been taught. Maybe purposeful ignorance
- 2. Misunderstanding of the command
- 3. Willful <u>disobedience</u>—lack of fear of God